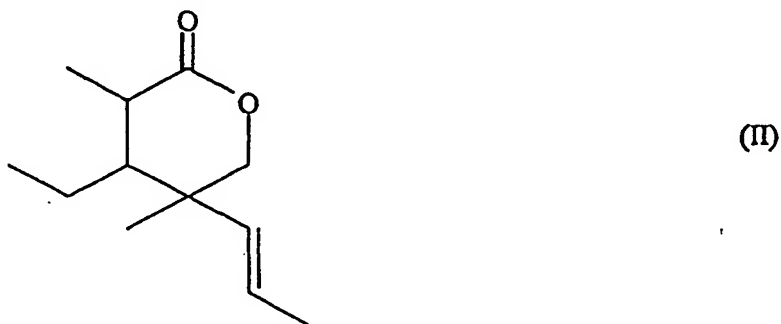


ABSTRACT

A valerolactone compound represented by the formula (I):



- 5 wherein each of R¹ and R² is independently a hydrogen atom, a methyl group or an ethyl group wherein when R¹ is a hydrogen atom, R² is not a hydrogen atom; and wherein when R² is a hydrogen atom, R¹ is not a hydrogen atom, R³ is a hydrogen atom or a methyl group, and R⁴ is a propyl group, a 1-propenyl group or a phenyl group; a valerolactone compound represented by the formula (II):



10

a process for preparing the same; and a perfume composition comprising the above-mentioned valerolactone compound.